

## Department of State

GOING  
TELEGRAMPAGE 01 OF 07 STATE 263576  
ORIGIN 55-78

INFO OCT-88 ADS-88 SSO-88 /030 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA/AT:RPMIKULAK  
APPROVED BY ACDA:RGREY  
EUR/DOV:INCLEAN  
PM/RBURT  
NEA/PAB:DSNYDER-  
EUR/RPH:CTHOMAS  
ACDA-AJURRENTINE  
ACDA-EPOVNY (SUBS)  
S/S-D.T;TR,CALERG 017370Z OCT 81  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAMPDERRA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 263576

EXDIS-LONDON FOR ACDA DIRECTOR ROSTOV

E.O. 12865, RDS-1 9/24/86 (GREY, ROBERT)

TAGS: PARM, UR, US  
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH THE BV  
CONVENTION

1. (S-ENTIRE TEXT).

2. SUMMARY: ACDA ACTING DIRECTOR GREY PRESENTED A US  
DEMARCHE CONCERNING SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH THE BIOLOGICAL  
WEAPONS CONVENTION TO SOVIET CHARGE ON OCTOBER 1.  
EMBASSY MOSCOW IS REQUESTED TO REINFORCE THE DEMARCHE BY  
RAISING SAME POINTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY. END  
SUMMARY.3. ACTING ACDA DIRECTOR GREY CALLED IN SOVIET CHARGE  
BESSMERTNYKH ON OCTOBER 1 AND PRESENTED HIM THE DEMARCHE  
OUTLINED BELOW (PARA 4). BEFORE PRESENTING THE DEMARCHE  
GREY STATED THAT THE ISSUE WAS ONE OF EXTRAORDINARY  
GRAVITY AND THAT THE DEMARCHE BEARS DIRECTLY ON THE  
PROBLEM OF VERIFYING ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS WHICH ACDA  
DIRECTOR ROSTOV HAD RAISED WITH BESSMERTNYKH  
LAST AUGUST. WE WISH TO DISCUSS THE VERIFICATION  
ISSUES WITH THE SOVIET SIDE AS SOON AS YOU ARE READY.  
AS DIRECTOR ROSTOV NOTED IN HIS PRIOR DISCUSSION  
IT IS OUR VIEW THAT WE MUST NOW COOPERATE IN THE  
VERIFICATION OF ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS BY WHATEVER  
MEANS WHICH MAY TURN OUT TO BE NECESSARY AND  
APPROPRIATE. TODAY'S DEMARCHE HOWEVER GOES FAR BEYOND  
THE PROBLEMS OF ARMS CONTROL TO THE ROLE OF INTER-  
NATIONAL LAW IN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
SYSTEM, AND TO QUESTIONS OF HUMANITY AND THE  
RELATIONSHIP OF THE SOVIET UNION WITH THE PEOPLES OF  
THE THIRD WORLD.

State Dept. review completed

ACTION 0688  
TO MA  
INFO D, DD  
MA/AT  
MA/IR  
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4. BEGIN TEXT OF DEMARCHE.

-- THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO RAISE A PROBLEM OF EXTREME  
IMPORTANCE FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND  
THE SOVIET UNION AND FOR THE FUTURE OF ARMS CONTROL. IT  
CONCERNS SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS  
CONVENTION.-- THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE DISCUSSED  
ONE ASPECT OF THIS ISSUE -- THE OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX IN  
SVERDLOVSK -- REPEATEDLY IN THE PAST, MOST RECENTLY WHEN  
THE US CHARGE IN MOSCOW TALKED WITH FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN  
MINISTER KORNIYENKO IN JUNE. THE UNITED STATES WISHES,  
HOWEVER, TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION ONE MORE TIME IN AN ATTEMPT  
TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM.-- THE UNITED STATES HAS STRONG REASON TO BELIEVE THAT  
THE SOVIET UNION IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE BIOLOGICAL  
WEAPONS CONVENTION. THIS CONCERN IS BASED IN PART ON THE  
OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX IN SVERDLOVSK. IT IS BASED IN PART  
ON THE PRESENCE IN THE SOVIET UNION OF HEAVILY SECURED  
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAVE FEATURES WHICH SUGGEST  
THAT THEIR FUNCTION IS RELATED TO BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. IT  
IS ALSO BASED ON STRONG AND COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF THE  
USE OF MYCOTOXINS BY COMMUNIST FORCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.-- WITH REGARD TO THE OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX IN SVERDLOVSK,  
PREVIOUS EXCHANGES HAVE SERVED ONLY TO HEIGHTEN THE  
SUSPICION THAT THE OUTBREAK WAS THE RESULT OF SOVIET  
ACTIVITIES INCONSISTENT WITH THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS  
CONVENTION. THE EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY THE SOVIET  
GOVERNMENT THAT THE OUTBREAK WAS DUE TO NATURAL CAUSES IS  
INCONSISTENT WITH INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED  
STATES. AMONG THE REASONS FOR CONTINUING CONCERN ARE  
REPORTS THAT THE INHALATION FORM OF ANTHRAX WAS INVOLVED  
AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF DEATHS.-- UNDERLYING US CONCERN OVER THE OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX IS  
ITS PROXIMITY TO AN UNUSUAL MILITARY FACILITY KNOWN AS  
CANTONMENT 19. CANTONMENT 19 INCLUDES ANIMAL PENS,  
SUGGESTING IT IS ENGAGED IN TESTS ON ANIMALS. IT  
INCLUDES STRUCTURES ENCLOSED IN EARTHEN REVETMENTS WHICH  
APPEAR SUITABLE FOR THE STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES. CERTAIN  
AREAS HAVE EXTRAORDINARILY STRICT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.  
THE SECTION WITHIN THE SOVIET MILITARY WHICH IS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL PROGRAMS IS KNOWN  
TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH A FACILITY IN SVERDLOVSK. THE  
UNITED STATES IS AWARE OF OTHER MILITARY FACILITIES  
ELSEWHERE IN THE SOVIET UNION WHICH HAVE SIMILAR  
CHARACTERISTICS, SUGGESTING THAT THEY MAY BE ENGAGED IN  
ILLICIT BIOLOGICAL WARFARE ACTIVITIES.-- THE SOVIET UNION HAS FAILED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF  
REPEATED CONTACTS ON SVERDLOVSK TO PROVIDE INFORMATION  
WHICH MIGHT ALLAY OUR CONCERN. INSTEAD, THE SOVIET  
GOVERNMENT HAS DENIED THAT THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS  
CONVENTION IS INVOLVED AND QUESTIONED US SERIOUSNESS IN  
RAISING THE ISSUE. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE  
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IS INVOLVED AND HAS  
REPEATEDLY RAISED THE ISSUE PRECISELY BECAUSE IT IS  
SERIOUS ABOUT ARMS CONTROL AND ABOUT THE NEED TO COMPLY  
WITH ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS. THE UNCOOPERATIVE REACTION  
OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IS INCONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE V  
OF THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION.-- NOW NEW INFORMATION ABOUT THE USE OF TOXIN WEAPONS IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA HAS ADDED AN ADDITIONAL DIMENSION TO THIS  
ISSUE. THREE LETHAL TOXINS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN A

SECRET

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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SAMPLE FROM KAMPUCHEA -- SUBSTANCES WHOSE USE IN WAR IS CLEARLY PROHIBITED UNDER THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL AND RELATED RULES OF CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND WHOSE POSSESSION OR MANUFACTURE FOR SUCH PURPOSES IS PROHIBITED UNDER THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. THE SYMPTOMS PRODUCED BY THESE TOXINS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE BIZARRE EFFECTS REPORTED BY EYEWITNESSES AND BY VICTIMS OF CERTAIN LETHAL ATTACKS IN KAMPUCHEA. THEY ARE ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THE EFFECTS OF ATTACKS WHICH HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN LAOS AND IN AFGHANISTAN.

-- IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS SUPPORTING THE VIETNAMESE IN THEIR INVASION OF KAMPUCHEA. SOVIET PERSONNEL HAVE FUNCTIONED IN AN ADVISORY ROLE ON MATTERS RELATED TO CHEMICAL WARFARE THERE, AND NUMEROUS REPORTS DIRECTLY LINK THE SOVIET UNION TO ATTACKS WITH LETHAL AGENTS IN AFGHANISTAN, LAOS AND KAMPUCHEA. THE THREE SPECIFIC TRICHOCECENE TOXINS FOUND DO NOT OCCUR NATURALLY TOGETHER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. NO KNOWN FACILITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA COULD PRODUCE THE TOXINS IN THE QUANTITIES NECESSARY TO CAUSE THE EFFECTS REPORTED, ALTHOUGH THE SOVIET UNION COULD PRODUCE THEM. RESEARCH PROJECTS CONCERNING TRICHOCECENE TOXINS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AT VARSAN PACY INSTITUTES PREVIOUSLY ASSOCIATED WITH CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS RESEARCH.

-- THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS CLEAR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE I, EACH PARTY COMMITS ITSELF NEVER TO DEVELOP, PRODUCE, STOCKPILE OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRE OR RETAIN BIOLOGICAL

AGENTS OR TOXINS FOR HOSTILE PURPOSES.

-- ARTICLE III FORBIDS PARTIES TO TRANSFER SUCH BIOLOGICAL AGENTS OR TOXINS TO ANY RECIPIENT OR TO ASSIST OR ENCOURAGE ANY STATE IN THEIR ACQUISITION OR MANUFACTURE.

-- ARTICLE V REQUIRES THE PARTIES TO CONSULT AND COOPERATE IN SOLVING ANY PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE WITH RESPECT TO THE CONVENTION.

-- IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE V OF THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, THE UNITED STATES REQUESTS A PROMPT MEETING INVOLVING TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES TO EXAMINE THESE ISSUES FULLY AND TO DISCUSS MEANS BY WHICH THESE CONCERNS MIGHT BE ALLAYED.

-- SPECIFICALLY WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF TOXINS, THE UNITED STATES EXPECTS THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL ACT SO AS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE OF THESE INCIDENTS. THE UNITED STATES ALSO EXPECTS THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE UN INVESTIGATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS USE AND THAT IT WILL STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENTS OF AFGHANISTAN, LAOS AND VIETNAM TO COOPERATE FULLY AS WELL.

-- THE UNITED STATES ASKS FOR A PROMPT AND POSITIVE REPLY TO THESE REQUESTS. THE POSSIBILITY OF RESOLVING THIS MATTER THROUGH BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IS ALMOST EXHAUSTED, AND THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO TAKE ITS CONCERNS TO OTHER FORA. THE IMPLICATIONS OF A FAILURE TO RESOLVE THIS MATTER ARE EXTREMELY SERIOUS FOR THE FUTURE OF ARMS CONTROL, AS WELL AS FOR US/SOVIET RELATIONS.

END TEXT.

5. BISSMERTHYKH NOTED THAT SECRETARY HAIG AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HAD DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE BRIEFLY AND THAT

GROMYKO HAD ALREADY REJECTED U.S. CHARGES AS UNFOUNDED. BISSMERTHYKH STATED THAT THERE IS NO FACTUAL BASIS TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS SUGGESTED BY US AND THAT IF THIS IS WHAT U.S. MEANS BY VERIFICATION THERE IS NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT. HE SAID THAT FROM THE WAY THE U.S. HAS HANDLED THIS MATTER WAS CLEARLY A PROPAGANDA ISSUE AND THAT EACH OF THE CHARGES IS COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED.

6. GREY, PH DIRECTOR BURT AND AMBASSADOR ROWNY (SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR NEGOTIATIONS) MADE CLEAR THAT THE U.S. CONSIDERS THIS MATTER AS MOST SERIOUS AND THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE FOR THE SOVIETS TO ASSUME THAT WE ARE APPROACHING IT AS A PROPAGANDA ISSUE. IT WAS STRESSED THAT THE U.S. WOULD LIKE TO CLEAR UP THESE PROBLEMS SO PROGRESS CAN BE MADE IN ARMS CONTROL. WITHOUT A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION, IT WAS INDICATED THAT A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF UPCOMING ARMS CONTROL TALKS WOULD BE MADE MORE DIFFICULT.

7. BISSMERTHYKH SAID THAT HIS RESPONSE HAD BEEN PRELIMINARY AND THAT HE WOULD PASS ON THE DEMARCHE TO MOSCOW.

8. FOR MOSCOW CHARGE IS REQUESTED TO REINFORCE U.S. CONCERNS BY PRESENTING DEMARCHE PARA 4 ABOVE TO APPROPRIATE SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

9. KABUL MI;IMIZE CONSIDERED.  
CLARK

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MESSAGE CENTER

81 OCT -2 A8:39

U.S. ARMS CONTROL  
AND  
DISARMAMENT  
AGENCY

SECRET